

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449(PTO) | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Application Number | 10/540,376-Conf. #2736 |
| | | | | Filing Date | January 17, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Dirk Nuber et al. |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1793 |
| <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Examiner Name | M. L. Shevin |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 4 | Attorney Docket Number | 20941/0211439-US0 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² -Number ³ -Kind Code ⁴ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear T ⁵ |
| BA | CN-1424280-A | 06-18-2003 | Beijing Science & Technology | Abstract included | X |
| BB | DE-2636134-A1 | 02-17-1977 | Nippon Steel Corp | Equivalent to US4147911 | X |
| BC | DE-10260743-A1 | 07-08-2004 | Outokumpu Oy | Equivalent to US2006237300 | X |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|

"EXAMINER: If initial reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant." CITE NO.: Those applications (s) which are marked with a single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.96(a)(2)(ii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. Applicant's name and address are supplied under 37 CFR 1.96(a)(2)(i) and 1.96(d) PTO Form 1449A available at www.uspto.gov or 901.04. "Entered Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WFO) Standard ST.53." For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. "Kind of document by the appropriate symbols, as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16, if applicable." Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

of

4

Complete if Known

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Application Number | 10/540,376-Conf. #2736 |
| Filing Date | January 17, 2006 |
| First Named Inventor | |
| Art Unit | 1793 |
| Examiner Name | M. L. Shevin |

Attorney Docket Number 20941/0211439-US0

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue numbers), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|-------------------|---|--|----------------|
| CA | "Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry" 5th edition, 1994, Vol. A25, pages 574-575 | | |
| CB | SANDER U H F et al. "Production from elemental sulphur" Sulphur, Sulphur Dioxide and Sulphuric Acid. Introduction to their Industrial Chemistry and Technology, London, British Sulphur Corporation, GB, 1984, pages 168-176, XP0006085 | | |
| CC | Barbara ELVERS et al. "Ullmann's Encyclopedia of Industrial Chemistry", Fifth, Completely Revised Edition, Vol. A25, VCH, pages 567-577 | | |
| CD | Notice of Allowance dated 02/06/2009 for USNN:10/540,355 filed 02/02/2006 | | |
| CE | Notice of Allowance dated 07/20/2009 for USNN: 10/540,435 filed 03/27/2006. | | |
| CF | Office Action dated 09/19/2008 for USNN: 10/540,435 filed 03/27/2006. | | |
| CG | Office Action dated 02/11/2009 for USNN: 10/540,497 filed 05/31/2006. | | |
| CH | Notice of Allowance dated 02/06/2009 for USNN: 10/540,355 filed 02/02/2006. | | |
| CI | Office Action dated 08/12/2008 for USNN: 10/540,355 filed 02/02/2006. | | |
| CJ | Office Action dated 03/27/2008 for USNN: 10/540,355 filed 02/02/2006. | | |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/540,376-Conf. #2736 |
| | | | | Filing Date | January 17, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1793 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | M. L. Shevin |
| Sheet | 3 | of | 4 | Attorney Docket Number | |
| 20941/0211439-US0 | | | | | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | |
| CK | | Office Action dated 07/08/2009 for USSN: 10/540,073 filed 07/19/2006. | | | |
| CL | | Office Action dated 01/26/2009 for USSN: 10/540,073 filed 07/19/2006. | | | |
| CM | | Office Action dated 08/21/2008 for USSN: 10/540,073 filed 07/19/2006. | | | |
| CN | | Office Action dated 09/17/2008 for USSN: 10/540,434 filed 05/16/2006. | | | |
| CO | | Notice of Allowance dated 12/03/2008 for USSN: 10/540,437 filed 05/10/2006. | | | |
| CP | | Office Action dated 06/16/2008 for USSN: 10/540,437 filed 05/10/2006. | | | |
| CQ | | Office Action dated 12/29/2008 for USSN: 10/540,071 filed 05/11/2006. | | | |
| CR | | Office Action dated 07/23/2008 for USSN: 10/540,071 filed 05/11/2006. | | | |
| CS | | Notice of Allowance dated 04/13/2009 for USSN: 10/540,071 filed 05/11/2006. | | | |
| CT | | Office Action dated 07/14/2008 for USSN: 10/540,436 filed 11/10/2005. | | | |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|---|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Application Number | 10/540,376-Conf. #2736 |
| (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Filing Date | January 17, 2006 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1793 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | M. L. Shevin |
| Sheet | 4 | of | 4 | Attorney Docket Number | 20941/0211439-US0 |

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
|-------------------|-----------------------|---|----------------|
| CU | | Office Action dated 10/30/2008 for USSN: 10/540,436 filed 11/10/2005. | |
| CV | | Office Action dated 04/17/2009 for USSN: 10/540,436 filed 11/10/2005. | |
| CW | | Office Action dated 12/27/2007 for USSN: 10/540,436 filed 11/10/2005. | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | </ | | |

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.